



It's been about 5 months since our lives and the world has changed due to the pandemic. Despite our challenges, I'm committed to keeping communication strong. Please reach out to me if you have any concerns or if you have any ideas for subjects that can be shared in the bulletin. I'm happy to text, email, talk by phone, Zoom, or meet in person with any employee or group. Together, we will get through this and your health and well-being continue to be my top

priority. Hang in there and stay safe.

Employee Recognitions

At last week's City Council meeting, the City Council honored two of our employees: Jeff Rouston, Senior Equipment Operator and Officer Ashley Cummins. Jeff Rouston received a proclamation for his 30 years of service to the city, starting his career in 1988. Jeff was born and raised in National City, and has been indispensable to Public Works over the years, working in a variety of capacities including Street Maintenance, Street Sweeping, and Wastewater. Jeff has participated in countless Public Works projects, helping ensure our wastewater system is maintained properly and our environment is protected from sewer spills.

Officer Ashley Cummins was also honored as the Employee of the Quarter. In addition to her regular duties, Officer Cummins devoted her time to create the "Box with a Cop" event that took place on March 7 at the Community Youth Athletic Center, a non-profit boxing gym here in National City. Officer Cummins inspired several of her fellow officers to join her to conduct boxing drills with at-risk youth ages 7-19 at the gym, helping to form positive relationships with the children. Numerous sponsors stepped up to offer boxing gloves, lunch and t-shirts to the kids.

Please join me in thanking both Jeff and Ashley for their service to the community. Their actions make all the difference in making National City a wonderful place to live and work!

August 18 City Council Meeting

At their next meeting on August 18, City Council will consider a number of additional programs and policies as we continue to offer assistance to residents and businesses to help them during the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes extending expiring building permits through December 31, 2020 and extending a temporary moratorium on evictions for residential and commercial tenants. We will also be reviewing all sponsored and co-sponsored city events for the next 90 days to determine whether or not those will be canceled or will go virtual. Thank you to all of our staff for assisting with

these new programs, and being creative to move our programs and services online so that we can continue to serve the public safely and effectively.

Together We Can! - Engineering Team

The Engineering Division has been working diligently through the COVID-19 pandemic not only by providing customer service to residents, businesses, and private development, but also making sure our numerous CIP projects continue to move forward. These projects total \$80 million over the next five years and are mostly funded through state and federal grants. Most recently, we were awarded \$3.5 million for the Paradise Water Quality and Community Enhancement Project. Check out www.nationalcityprojects.com for information on current CIP projects. Thank you to all of the Engineering staff, including James Slade, Sr. Construction Inspector, who isn't pictured here as he is out of the office on military leave.

